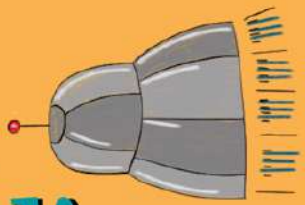
The intention for this series is to highlight ***Trans-Masculine*** history, art, and experiences

Presented By Space Cowboy Studios

Astroid Radio:



Lou Sullivan

(author, activist, and historian)

Important terminology:

AFAB: Assigned Female at Birth

FTM: Female-to-Male

Trans-Masculine (Trans masc): A non-binary individual who wasAFAB who is masculine in presentation

Trans Man: An individual who was AFAB who is male in gender

Transgender: gender identity differs from assigned sex.

Transsexual*: outdated term for those who medically transition.

Transvestite*: old term for cross-dressers.

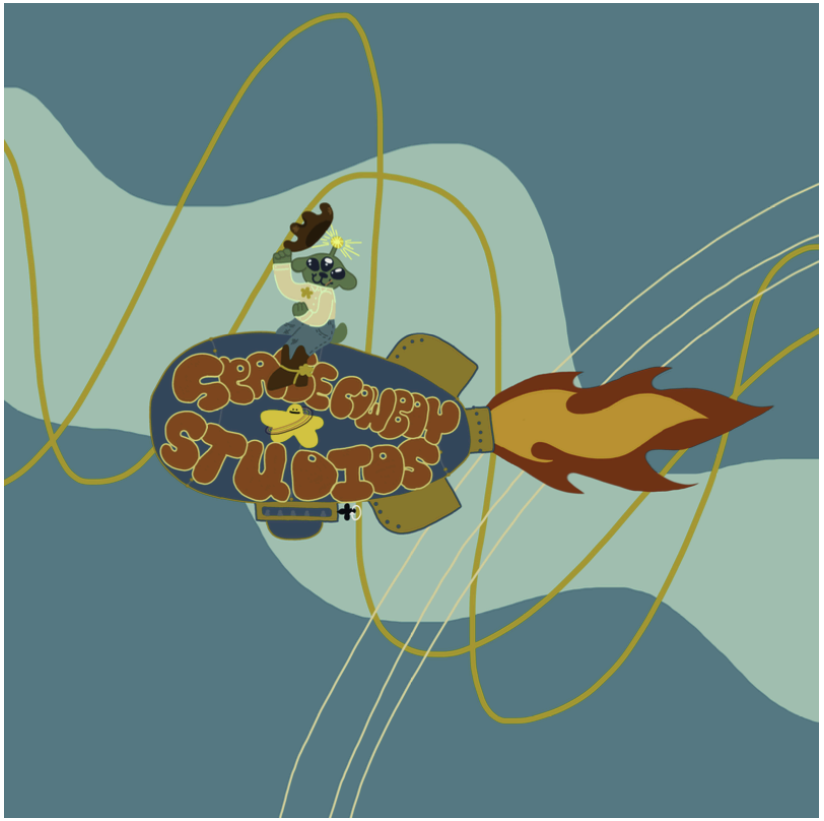
Gender: Socially constructed concept, how someone identifies

Sex: Typically refers to biological characteristics assigned at birth

GLBT*: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender

Sexuality:Sexuality is about your feelings, attractions, and behaviors, not just whom you have sex with. (Better Health, 2012).

**Outdated but is frequently referenced throughout this zine*



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Check Out Our Website!:
www.spacecowboystudios.org
Kodi: @earth.to.kodi on Instagram
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Thank you!

Thank you for grabbing a copy of Astroid Radio, we are incredibly grateful for those who support us, we wouldn't be able to do it without you!

Special Thanks to August for being our first artist spotlight! Go check him out on Instagram and Youtube @offacidmaybeonacid!

Thank you, Sisters of Sound and Switch Wicked, for generously supporting Astroid Radio by selling copies for us. Your ongoing support means everything to us!

-Space Cowboy Studios

Gender VS. Sex

The terms sex and gender are frequently used interchangeably, despite their distinct meanings. Gender is a socially constructed concept, while sex typically refers to biological characteristics. In Transgender History (2017), Susan Stryker argues that, although many assume gender identity is biologically rooted, its specific biological cause remains unproven. She suggests gender functions more like a language than an inherent biological attribute. Rigid gender binaries remain pervasive in many aspects of human experience and societal functioning.

Gender Performance

Judith Butler is a prominent figure in the realm of feminist and queer theory and her 1999 work *Gender Trouble* revolutionized scholarly understanding of gender expression and performance by demonstrating that gender identity emerges through continuous construction and reconstruction processes, manifested in repetitive actions and culturally specific stylized movements. Butler argues that gender is not an inherent characteristic but a dynamic performance resulting from repetitive social practices that create the perception of a stable identity. These performative acts are not voluntary expressions of an interior nature but strategic repetitions that reveal and challenge normative gender expectations. Through mechanisms like exaggerated performances, self-parody, and deliberate disruptions of traditional gender norms, individuals expose the constructed nature of gender

Strauss , D. (n.d.). Lou Sullivan. Retrieved from Making Queer History website: https://www.makingqueerhistory.com/articles/2018/5/21/lou-sullivan

Stryker, S. (2017). *Transgender history* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Seal Press. (Original work published 2008)

Sullivan, L., Martin, E., Zach Ozma, & Stryker, S. (2019). *We both laughed in pleasure: the selected diaries of Lou Sullivan, 1961-1991*. New York: Nightboat Books.

References

Better Health. (2012). Sexuality explained. Retrieved from Vic.gov.au website: https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/Sexuality-explained

Butler, J. (1999). Gender trouble : Feminism and the subversion of identity. Routledge.

Geller, P. L. (2017). *The bioarchaeology of socio-sexual lives : Queering common sense about sex, gender, and sexuality*. Switzerland: Springer.

GLBT Museum . (n.d.). Primary source set: Lou sullivan. Retrieved from GLBT Historical Society website: https://www.glbthistory.org/primary-source-set-lou-sullivan

WORD BANK: ASTROID, ACTIVIST, COWBOY, SEXUALITY, SULLIVAN, QUEER, HISTORY, AUGUST

The Gender of Sexuality

Sexuality and sexual behavior are frequently interpreted within the framework of the gender binary, demonstrating the pervasive influence of this system on understandings of human experience. These interpretations are typically framed through a heteronormative and dimorphic lens, with limited recognition of same-sex relationships due to the prevailing assumption that such relationships are not natural occurrences. The invention of the terms heterosexuality and homosexuality drastically impacted the way people understood and talked about sexual identity and sexual experience, both in social and medical contexts (Geller, 2017).

Want your art featured in Astroid Radio?

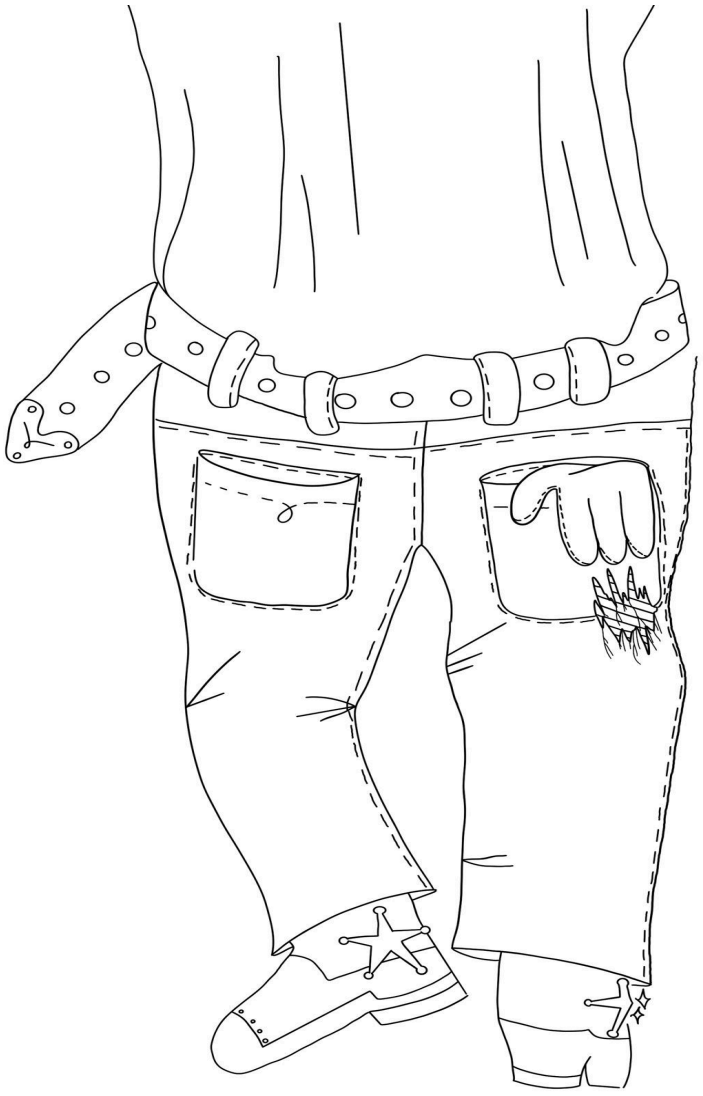
If you identify as trans masculine and make art, fill out thisGoogle Form!*

What we are looking for:

- *Drawings*
- *Writings (Poetry, short stories, personal stories, etc)*
- *Comics*

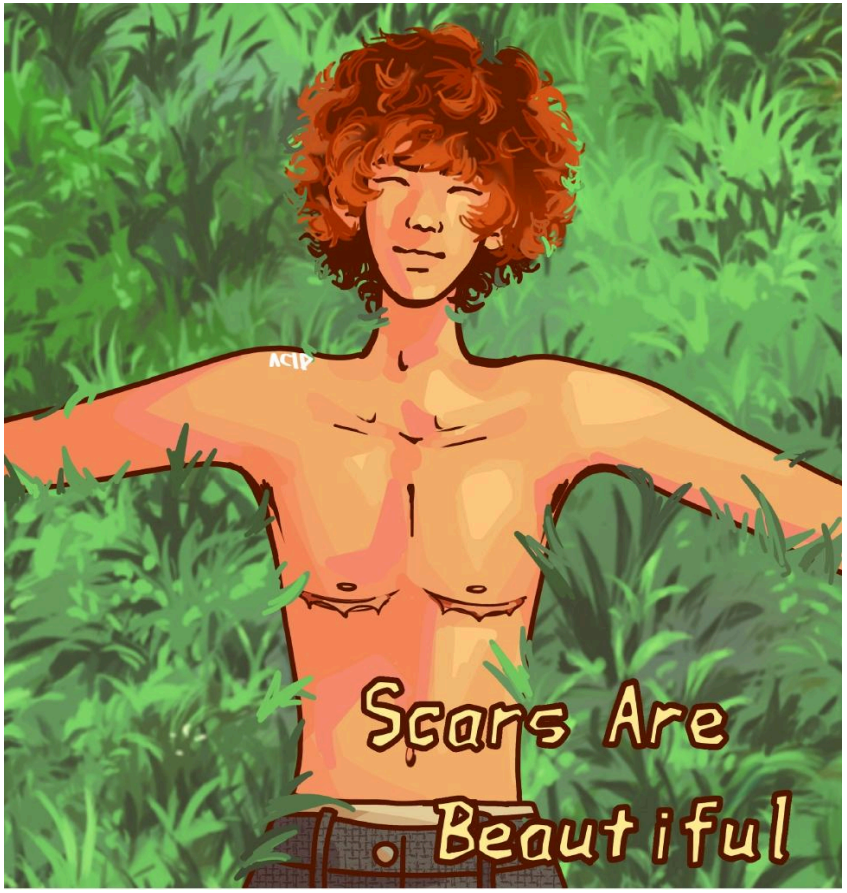
*Artist submissions to Astroid Radio are NOT guaranteed; multiple submissions are allowed.

COLOR ME! :)



Lou Sullivan

(1951-1991)- is credited as a pioneer of the FTM movement, paving the way for those much like himself living authentically as a gay trans man. He was a renowned gay and trans historian. He documented his social and medical transition, as well as his emotional and sexual life, in a series of diaries from when he was a teenager all the way to his death in 1991. Since there was a lack of understanding about transmasculinity Sullivan quickly became an almost leader-like figure for the transmasculine community.



My name is August King and this art piece is about loving yourself, and how important getting top surgery is for me. I love being able to share my art, because my art is like a part of me, and I get to share that with lovely people.

Artist Spotlight!: August King

Check out more of August's art @offacidmaybeonacid on Instagram and Youtube!

GLBT History Museum

Lou Sullivan

Longtime San Francisco resident, writer and activist, Lou Sullivan died of AIDS at his Albion Street home on March 2. Born Sheila Sullivan in Milwaukee on June 16, 1951, Lou spent much of his adolescence coming to terms with his gender identity and sexual orientation. By his early 20s he had decided to undertake the long journey to altering his body to fit his deeply felt identity as a man. His decision was complicated by the fact that he was sexually attracted to men and identified as a gay male. From the early 1970s on, he worked persistently to attain the body he desired and acquire a place in the gay community.

He was a regular contributor to the former Milwaukee gay monthly *GPU News* and his extraordinary typing and typesetting skills sustained that publication for many years.

After moving to San Francisco later in the 1970s, he began to actively pursue sex reassignment. He was rejected three times by a famous gender clinic associated with Stanford Hospital because his identity was openly gay and gender experts had not yet identified female-to-gay male transsexuality as a "legitimate" category. Eventually, tiring of trying to educate the experts, Sullivan decided to pursue his own course of therapy and surgery. Armed with a letter of introduction from the internationally recognized Kinsey Institute researcher and author Wardell Pomeroy, Lou began to independently contact, interview and engage physicians willing to assist his change. Over several years he pioneered this self-guided method of sex reassignment, paving the way for scores of others.

Always concerned about other struggling transsexuals, Sullivan was a tireless correspondent, writer, speaker and organizer of transsexual issues, especially regarding female-to-male and lesbian and gay issues. He was instrumental in forming the San Francisco-based support group Female to Male and edited their newsletter *FTM*. He also authored three editions of *Information for the Female to Male Cross Dresser and Transsexual* and was a frequent speaker at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality and other professional organizations and conferences.

His intense interest in female-to-male transsexuality led to years of research on the phenomenon of women who passed as men. This culminated in his 1990 biography *From Female to Male, the Life of Jack Bee Garland,* a fascinating character who lived in Northern California in the 19th century.

Lou was an authentic giver. He befriended hundreds of people and influenced thousands more. Most significantly, he was true to himself, against enormous odds. May his spirit long be with us.

Color Me! :)

Sullivan moved to San Francisco at 24 years old to be able to freely start his transition and live his life as a gay man. Despite San Francisco being a metropolitan area where many queer and trans people fled to, heterosexuality was a requirement in order to start a medical transition at the time. "Gender professionals didn't believe in "female to gay males". There were gay men and trans men; two distinct groups…He believed in and focused on helping fellow trans men, especially gay trans men. He lobbied for the American Psychiatric Association and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health to recognize gay trans men. He fought not only to have gay trans men recognized but to change the requirements for gender identity disorder to no longer include sexuality as a requirement. He fought for gay trans men to have access to medical transition," (Strauss).